

Department of Justice

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BUREAU

## FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

## HQ - HEADQUARTERS

OO/ Case # Sub Vol. Serial #

7749 1 1 30

4/11/566135



RRP00339B1

61

7749

SECTION 1

SERIALS 1-30

Declassification authority  
derived from FBI Automatic  
Declassification Guide,  
issued May 24, 2007

Screened by NARA (RD-F)  
10-08-2019 FOIA # 53280  
DOCID: 34377773

INVESTIGATION

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

**L. A. FILE NO. 61-352**

REPORT MADE AT <b>Los Angeles, California</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/29/39</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12/6/39</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>E. LEWIS NICHOLS</b> <span style="float: right;">ERM</span>
TITLE <b>VOINEY G. MATHISON;</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject is alleged to have built several high-frequency radio sets and to possess a Mexican border pass. It is also alleged he is preparing to obtain a passport to Russia, which he claims he will use in the event of hostilities, and that he has installed an unusually large gasoline tank in his car and is able to drive to some unknown location in Mexico and return without having to stop for fuel. Nationalistic tendency cards submitted to Bureau.

C.

**DETAILS:**

In a memorandum dated October 30, 1939, <sup>\*</sup>Confidential Informant "N" advised that VOINEY G. MATHISON, whose address is not given, is alleged to have constructed ultra high-frequency radio sets which work better than many on the market, which sets Subject claims he uses for receiving news broadcasts.

It is alleged that MATHISON has a Mexican border pass and is preparing to obtain a passport for Russia which he claims he will use in the event of hostilities.

The memorandum indicates that MATHISON has installed an unusually large gasoline tank in his car and is able to drive to some unknown location in Mexico and return without having to stop for fuel.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> COPIES DESTROYED R 42 MAY 24 1961 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> RECEIVED COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles cc to 5-1-48 EMG </div>	N 61-7749-1	JAN 3 - 1940
	JAN - 2 P.M. ONE HARBO	

LA 61-352

The memorandum further indicates that MATHISON has a great many friends among the foreign element of the long-shoremen.

The Long Beach and Los Angeles City Directories for 1939 were checked. However, they do not list VOLNEY G. MATHISON.

In view of the fact that the above information fails to disclose any activities of the Subject bearing upon the Federal Espionage Statute, this case is being closed.

ENCLOSURE: FOR THE BUREAU

Nationalistic tendency cards on VOLNEY G. MATHISON.

\* C L O S E D \*

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California

December 29, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: VOLNEY G. MATHISON;  
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that Confidential Informant "N" referred to in the report of Special Agent E. LEWIS NICHOLS, Los Angeles, California, dated December 29, 1939, is Captain E. M. ZACHARIAS, Intelligence Officer in Charge, 11th Naval District, San Diego, California.

Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*

R. B. Hood,  
Special Agent in Charge

ELN:ERM  
LA 61-352

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

61-7749-1X

61-7749-1-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 3

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tour Room	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

61-7749-1X  
RECORDED COPY FILED IN 61-7749-1X

DE-INDEXED  
DATE: 3/16/59  
28

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Los Angeles, California  
July 16, 1940

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: VOLNEY G. MATHISON  
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

For the Bureau's information, please be advised that by letter dated June 3, 1940, Mr. VOLNEY G. MATHISON inquired as follows:

"I should appreciate being advised as to the proper office and correct procedure in submitting an application for entering the service of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have had a certain amount of experience."

Mr. MATHISON'S letter has been acknowledged by this office at which time he was advised of the qualifications of special agents of this Bureau. Mr. MATHISON'S letter was written on a letterhead of "The Oceanphone Company, Distributors of Marine Radio Equipment, V. G. MATHISON, General Agent, P. O. Box 422, Wilmington, Calif."

It is noted that MATHISON is the Subject in a report submitted by E. LEWIS NICHOLS, Los Angeles, California, dated December 29, 1939, Los Angeles file 61-352. Since the rendition of the report of Agent NICHOLS, confidential information has been received from ONI to the effect that VOLNEY G. MATHISON and his wife, JEAN MATHISON, 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, California, were reported by an informant as being rabid in their Communistic views, and it was further indicated by this informant that Subject participates in Communist activities.

This information is being called to the Bureau's attention in the event MATHISON seeks employment with the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Arthur Cornelius  
ARTHUR CORNELIUS, JR.  
Special Agent in Charge.

SED:ESF  
61-352

61-7749-2  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 18 1940  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
INDEXED  
RECORDED  
FILED

P. O. Box 881  
Los Angeles, California  
September 6, 1940

64154

Captain Ellis M. Zacharias  
Intelligence Officer in Charge  
Eleventh Naval District  
San Diego, California

Re: VOLNEY G. MATHISON  
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

You are advised that recent information received by an agent of this office from Mrs. E. R. MAC NAUGHT is to the effect that Subject MATHISON is a neighbor of hers at 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, California, who lived next to her in a small one-room house; that he had a radio in his house over which he has received Morse code; that he listens in with earphones, types out messages, and apparently delivers the messages some place. Some of the messages are said to be in foreign languages.

Mrs. MAC NAUGHT further stated that Subject takes trips to Mexico regularly and also to San Francisco; that Subject has stated he is interested in mining but seems to be more interested in studying Morse code and radio. Subject is anti-British and apparently is pro-Russian. He has stated that the Russian problem is not getting a square deal in the American newspapers.

Further for your information, Subject's wife JEAN MATHISON obtained a job as a stenographer in the Navy Yard at Wil-  
m., California.

This information is furnished to you for whatever  
it might serve.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Very truly yours,

ARTHUR CORNELIUS JR.  
Special Agent in Charge

SEP 7 1940

RECEIVED  
SEP 13 1940

FIVE

EXHIBIT N

NOVEMBER 3 1420 G M T

#2 SKANMAIL SPECIAL RATE WITHOUT PAYING (REDUCED PRICE)

LENINGRAD

TEXT JUST THE SAME AS #1

VOLNEY MATHISON

Translated by:  
Maria Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT O

NOV 3 1400 G M T CALLED R D B

SENT S V C

R D B PLEASE Q S L OUR #1 P2

DATE 3 TO O G P U AND SPECIAL RATE WITHOUT PAYING REDUCED PRICE

K O D P -3 A N S K O J R-R D B NO, N O T R N O Q S L

Translated by:  
Maria Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961



Exhibit H.

Mr. Leonov.

Krestovski Ostrov

Nadejdinskaya St. #7b Flat 5

Leningrad, USSR.

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT G

JULIA STUDEVANT

BUREAU FACTORY NAMED AFTER STALIN

USSR MOSCOW 98

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT B

USSR MOSCOW

SOLANKA 12

THE ALL-UNION CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS.

ROOM #420

V. KUZNESOV.

Translated by:  
Marie Crescan  
3/21/41

COPIES DESTROYED  
R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT P

#2 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAING SKANMAIL

"30 G M T

IN PRICE LENINGRAD

TEXT THE SAME AS #1

VOLNEY MATHISON.

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

COPIES DESTROYED  
R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT R

NOV 4 - 1102 G M T

#1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING

SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 4 - 1102

O G P U LENINGRAD

WILL BE IN LENINGRAD TONIGHT ABOUT 11 P.M.

YOUR TIME VOLNEY MATHISON

#2 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING

SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 4 - 1102

IN PRICE LENINGRAD

TEXT THE SAME AS #1

VOLNEY MATHISON

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT Q

NOVEMBER 3- Q S L FROM R D B #1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING "SKANMAIL"  
O'G P U LENINGRAD ARRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO ON "SKANMAIL" NOV. 5  
HAVE DOCUMENTS TO SHOW THAT I AM REPRESENTATIVE FROM U S A TRADE  
UNION AMERICAN RADIO WORKERS WHO SEND ME TO YOU TO MOSCOW FOR  
NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS I HAVE AN AMERICAN PASSPORT AS A SEAMAN BUT I  
DON'T HAVE A VISA BECAUSE THERE WAS ONLY ONE DAY AFTER I WAS  
ELECTED THAT I HAD TO LEAVE ON THE BOAT "INTOURIST" I HAD  
INSTRUCTION AS YOU WERE INFORMED PLEASE MAYBE YOU COULD MEET  
ME WITH A TRANSLATOR T Y K I AM AN AMERICAN MEMBER FRIEND OF  
SOVIET UNION AUTHOR AND HAVE WORKED FOR RECOGNITION PLEASE  
GIVE ME INSTRUCTION ON THE RADIO I WILL BE VERY THANKFUL  
TO YOU.

VOLNEY MATHISON

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT A

N SAROJNIKOVA OR S MEPSHTEIN FRIEND OF THE KNAUSA

PREOBRAJSENSKI, VAL, HOUSE 24 FLAT 32 MOSCOW 23

MATLIN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ON ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY

#"44 TRAMBAI ON THE END

NARKOM TRUD (THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR WORK?) STARAIA PLOSHAD MOSCOW  
"BORODIN"

DVORES TRUDA (THE PALACE OF LABOUR) ROOM 410 ENO BUREAU "ARONS" OR  
KLARA EDEL HELPER OF SASEPKY P PERVOMAISKAYA ST 87<sup>9</sup> BLOVAISK

YABLOCHKOV N P

MOSCOW 17 BOLSHOI YAKIMONKA HOUSE #21 ROOM 14 RASHKOVSKI V E O

ADAMOV NIKITA PLENOVCKI 3 TIFLIS

NELEN GUARESOK ELECTRIC FACTORY ENO BUREAU

EMMA HARRIS KALANCHVSKAYA ST MOSCOW HOUSE4 FLAT 2

KOLES S N DVORES TRUDA ( THE PALACE OF LABOUR) CHAIRMAN

BLADIVOSTOC ROOM 79

T S LENOX FIRST ENGINEER FOR GENERAL ELECTRIC

ELECTRIC FACTORY TRANSFORMER TRADE UNION BUREAU

PREOBRAJENSKI VAL. MOSCOW HOUSE HOUSE 24 FLAT 71

GEO KNAUS BOSH WASHINGTON ROUTE 1 CUT WILLIAM HEBARD

J2

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT L

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

FRATERNAL GREETINGS

FROM THE FREE CITIZEN OF U S S R

MOSENOVA

MOSCOW Y D R A

SNARENON 1933 NOV. 8

MASENOV

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961



EXHIBIT M

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

NIKOLAI IVANOVITCH DOROVIN

DROGOMILOVSKAIA HOUSE #12 FLAT 4

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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EXHIBIT K

CENTRAL MUSEUM OF THE RED ARMY.

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT J

PICTURE OF MY LODGER'S CHILDREN WITH WOMEN ACTIVE MEMBERS J A K T a  
IN THE DAY OF CELEBRATION OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION. AFTER CHILDREN'S  
SHOW AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRESENTS.

M. KOMATSA LEONOV

NOVEMBER 9 1933.

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R 42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT I

PICTURE OF MY LODGER'S CHILDREN WITH WOMEN ACTIVE MEMBERS J A K T a  
IN THE DAY OF CELEBRATION OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION. AFTER CHILDREN'S  
SHOW AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRESENTS.

M. KOMATSA LEONCV

NOVEMBER 9, 1933

Translated by:  
Marie Crescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT C

IVAN ZUEV

1ST. KRASNOARMEISKAY ST. 6, FLAT 8 HOUSE 13

USSR MOSCOW

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

EXHIBIT S

NOVEMBER 3 -1420 G M T SKANMAIL

#1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAY

O G P U LENINGRAD

ARRIVING "SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 5 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRADE UNION

AMERICAN RADIO WORKER FOR HOLIDAYS NOVEMBER 7 HAVE PASSPORT

BUT NO VISA COULD YOU MEET ME WITH TRANSLATOR WILL BE VERY

THANKFUL

VOLNEY MATHISON

Translated by:  
Maria Crescan  
3/21/41

COPIES DESTROYED  
42 MAY 24 1960

EXHIBIT D

MR. GORDEEV.

D KRASNOARMEISKAY ST. 6 #6 FLAT 7

USSR - LENINGRAD 52

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

Exhibit F.

Nadia Preobrajenskaya

Danislavski Rinok, Sirotski Pereulok

House #16 Dorpus 5 Flat 130.

USSR Moscow

Tovarich Valetin

Ounoi Pereulok House #4 VV-36

Fuam(?) J Y K

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 42 MAY 24 1961



EXHIBIT E.

Do you have an address now?

Yes, I have an address of my wife.

I will give you the address on one condition--that your  
correspondence won't concern me.

Is it clear?

Translated by:  
Marie Orescan  
3/21/41

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R42 MAY 24 1961

KRM:CJ

RECORDED

61-7749 -4

March 26, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,  
with aliases, et al;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

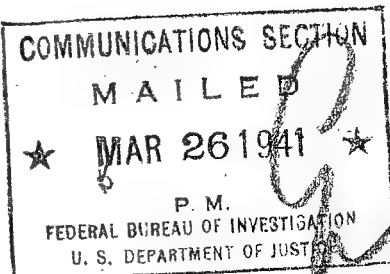
In keeping with the request contained in your  
letter of February 27, 1941, the original material  
transmitted therewith is being enclosed, together with  
copies of the translations thereof.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director

Enclosure

COPIES DESTROYED  
R42 MAY 24 1961



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
Los Angeles, California  
February 27, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: TECHNICAL  
LABORATORY

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, w.as;  
ET AL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

Dear Sir:

With reference to report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, California, dated February 27, 1941 in the above-entitled matter, I am transmitting herewith a quantity of material bearing handwritten and typewritten inscriptions in the Russian language.

This material was forwarded to the Los Angeles Field Division office by an anonymous letter from San Pedro, California, and apparently is the property of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, a well-known Communist who was a delegate to Moscow, Russia, in 1933.

It is requested that this material be translated and the translations forwarded to the Los Angeles Office. Some of the material pertains to radio messages. Kindly return all original material to the Los Angeles Office with the translations.

The aforementioned material is identified by Exhibit numbers A through S.

Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*  
R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

DWM/hp  
100-662  
Enclosures

RECORDED  
4:3 2 12 FEB 28 1941  
RECEIVED

61-7749-4	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
3	MAR 3 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FIVE FEB 28 1941	

Enclosures for the Director  
with letter of 2/27/41.

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, w.as; ET AL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

ENCLOSURE

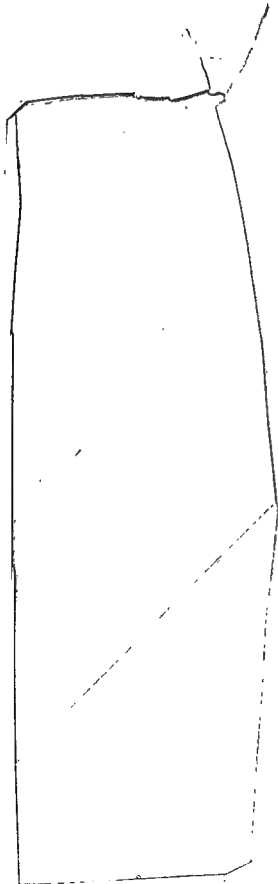
ENCLOSURE

61-7749-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300.



61-7747-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA			L. A. File 100-662	
Report made at Los Angeles, California	Date 2/27/41	Period 1/24/41 2/4, 5, 6/41	Report made by D. W. MAGEE	hp
Title: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases; Volney Mathieson, Volney G. Mathison, Gerald Matthewson, Matthew Blake, John C. Mathison, J. Mathison, J. Hall, V. G. Mathesan; PAUL M. ORR; CHESTER H. JORDAN.			Character INTERNAL SECURITY - R.	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, for a long number of years a member of the Communist Party and connected with the Friends of Soviet Union and the I.W.O. at San Francisco, is apparently in San Pedro or the harbor area, as an anonymous letter transmitted a folder of his material to the Los Angeles Office, giving the address, 1122 South Patton Avenue, San Pedro. MATHISON was an International Labor Convention delegate representing the American Marine Wireless Men in Moscow, Russia in 1933 and was received by MICHAEL KALININ, the Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR. MATHISON has been quoted in the Moscow News and has written on Russia for a number of years. He undoubtedly is associated with CHESTER H. JORDAN and MIKE, alias FRANK PADOVAN, heads of the Radio Wireless and Fishermen's Union of CIO, respectively. Both JORDAN and PADOVAN have been members of the Communist Party, as has PAUL M. ORR, now in San Francisco, formerly District Secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union in San Francisco. Identities of other Communists in the San Pedro or harbor area listed in this report. In the anonymous folder were found evidences of MATHISON'S visit to Russia in the form of Russian handwriting and memoranda as well as rough draft copies of radio messages in Russian which will be translated.

- P -

Appr. & Fded.	SAC	Do not write in these spaces	
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	7747-5	MAR 12 1941
Copies 5 Bureau 2 San Diego 2 New York 2 San Francisco 2 Portland 2 Seattle	2 Honolulu 2 ONI, San Diego 4 Los Angeles	MAR 3 1941 <i>[Stamps and signatures]</i>	<i>[Stamps and signatures]</i>

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-167832-1  
100-167565-1

L. A. #100-662

DETAILS:

The Los Angeles Division Office on January 21, 1941 received a folder of Communist Party material which included a Communist Party Membership Book and other material hereinafter described. This folder was forwarded through the mail with an anonymous letter dated San Pedro, California, January 19, 1940 written on fancy stationery apparently in a woman's handwriting.

This anonymous letter reads as follows:

"This folder with these papers were found at 1122 So. Patton Avenue, for further information call after February Second."

A review of this material seems to indicate that it was the property of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, a well-known, long-time Communist, who heretofore has been connected with the American Radio Telegraphers Association, generally known as the ARTA, under which symbol it will hereinafter be described.

[redacted] advised that VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON is still believed to be around the harbor area. He is known as a dangerous Communist, especially in his connection with wireless communications. The ARTA maintains a headquarters in San Pedro at 212 West Sixth Street, San Pedro, California, and has San Pedro telephone number 6053. CHESTER H. JORDAN is the head of this union which is a member of the CIO. CHESTER H. JORDAN is also a member of the Communist Party and a Communist Party Membership Book holder.

The anonymous communication transmitted a letter written on the letterhead of the Friends of the Soviet Union, address - Room 233, 799 Broadway, New York City, bearing date of December 9, 1933 and apparently written to the Pacific Section headquarters of the Friends of the Soviet Union, 1079 Market Street, San Francisco, California. This was a letter of introduction written by PAUL M. ORR, District Secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union, and also signed by DAVID RUBY, General Field Agent of the FSU.

This letter reads as follows:

L. A. #100-662

"TO ANYONE INTERESTED:

"THIS IS TO ATTEST THAT VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, A NATIVE OF TEXAS, USA, IS TO OUR POSITIVE KNOWLEDGE A MEMBER OR CORRESPONDENT MEMBER IN HIGH STANDING IN IMPORTANT POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS.

"WE CAN ALSO ATTEST THAT IN VIEW OF HIS WRITINGS AND LECTURES ON THE USSR BEFORE INTERESTED GROUPS ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF HIS ACTIVE, TIRELESS AND SELF SACRIFICING WORK IN THE LONG CAMPAIGN FOR RECOGNITION OF THE USSR BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT HE IS PERSONA GRATISSIMA IN THE USSR, AND THAT HE HAS ENTRE INTO ANY QUARTER THERE WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

"IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES, MR. MATHISON WAS PRESENT IN MOSCOW IN THE NOVEMBER 1933 CELEBRATIONS AS AN OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONVENTION DELEGATE, REPRESENTING AMERICAN MARINE WIRELESS MEN, AND IN THAT CAPACITY WAS OFFICIALLY RECEIVED ON NOVEMBER 12 BY MICHAEL KALININ, SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE USSR.

"THIS DOCUMENT IS RELEASED ONLY AT THE EXPRESS REQUEST OF THE BEARER AND IS RETURNABLE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1933."

It is noted that this shows clearly the connection between VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON and the Communist Internationale in Moscow, Russia.

PAUL M. ORR is a member of the Communist Party and until recently was in the Los Angeles area. Both he and his wife, VIOLET ORR, were registered in Los Angeles County as Communist Party voters.

Also included in this folder were eight separate memoranda in the Russian language. This material will be transmitted to the Bureau by separate letter with a request that it be translated. Inasmuch as the majority of the material in the folder relates to the years 1932 or 1933, these memoranda may date back to that period.



L. A. #100-662

Also included in the folder is a rough draft memorandum addressed to COMRADE MAYO, which states as follows:

"This is just to let you know that V. G. MATHESAN spoke for us here as scheduled - December 7, Eden Branch, FSU. His lecture or rather talk was highly informative and very well received. In fact, we were so thrilled with the information he gave us that we hope soon to have him speak for us again. He was excellent.

/s/

M. BANK (illegible)  
Secretary  
Mt. Eden Branch, FSU,  
Northwest Mt. Eden Avenue"

This memorandum was also signed by FRED A. BOGOROD and JACK WITTENBERG.

The folder also contained a pen and ink letter of introduction dated December 5, 1933 signed by CHARLES R. RINGO, Former Chairman of the City Committee, FSU, San Francisco, reading as follows:

"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

"This is to certify that I met Martin Darrell in connection with FSU work in San Francisco, California. At one of the meetings he and his wife came up to me and offered their services to the organization. We put Mrs. Darrell to work as Secretary of the City Committee. Both of them did a great deal of work in connection with the recognition campaign.

"I have been in his apartment in San Francisco and there found that he had a great many books on the Soviet Union and was an ardent reader of Prarda - which he read in Russian. I understand that he was born in a Single Tax Colony in Georgia and was raised on radical ideas."

On the reverse side of this memorandum appears the following statement:

L. A. #100-662

"The last part of this letter is incorrect, I was born in Texas; was reared in the Single Tax Colony founded by Joseph Fels, Philadelphia Philanthropist, at Fairhope, Alabama, about 1895, in an effort to demonstrate the semi-communistic or socialistic ideas of Henry George. There, Karl Marx's "Das Kapital" was a part of the school curriculum, and I read it. V.G.M."

Other material found in the folder, identifying other Communists, is quoted as follows:

(Copy of letter from Paul Orr and David Ruby, jointly, Pacific Coast Secretary and Pacific Coast Field Agent of the Friends of the Soviet Union:)

"447 Santa Fe Avenue  
Richmond, California  
12/1/33

"Herbert Goldfrank  
80 East 11th Street, N. Y. C.,

Dear Comrade:

"Pardon the paper and the writing as this is being penned while on the ferry.

"I received the enclosed telegram from one of our comrades who has just returned from the U.S.S.R. As you can see from the wire, he has the possibility of some good position. He wishes a letter of recommendation from me on our FSU letterhead. This I cannot do because of previous National Office instructions.

"The Darrells (This is their FSU name) have been in the FSU since some time in the latter part of 1932. They worked with our Fillmore local for some time and later took a part in the city committee work.

"Both took an active part in the recognition campaign this year. Comrade Darrell has real ability and seemed to take a real interest in the work. Comrade Charles

L. A. #100-662

Ringo (or Brown as he was known in the FSU here) who is now in your New York District (8133 Dongan Avenue, Elmhurst, L. I., (now at Parkview Inn, near 7th Avenue on West 68th Street, Tel. Trafalgar 7-4859) knows them well, and so communicate with him for further references.

"Comradely,

"Signed Paul Orr, District Secretary

"P.S. Comrade is OK, would be very valuable in USSR. Is technically and politically qualified.

"Signed David Ruby, District Agent,  
Friends of the Soviet Union.

"(David Ruby, M. A. of University of California, was an instructor in a Soviet physical culture school at Dneperstroy for nearly a year)"

As of March 24, 1936 subject VOLNEY MATHISON was known at the Terminal Radio Company, 615 Avalon Boulevard, Wilmington, California.

In this folder was a special delivery airmail letter postmarked San Francisco, January, 1934, to VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, address - 25 South Street, New York City. This letter was from Apartment 509 at 890 Bush Street, San Francisco, California.

Subject MATHISON must be connected with the International Longshoremens and Warehousemen's Union, Local 1-13, as in this folder were buttons bearing the symbol of that union in connection with the WEBSTER DEFENSE COMMITTEE. This relates to the BRITT WEBSTER murder trial which is currently on trial in the State Court at Los Angeles, with a CLAUDE SMALLMAN also on trial. The prosecution claims that both WEBSTER and SMALLMAN were members of the Communist Party and that the murder of Victim RILEY resulted from a Communist Party fight.

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Also in this folder was an original affidavit made by a MURIE SPENCER, describing herself as a housewife, address, 1745 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California, sworn to as of January 5, 1934 before a Notary Public MAUDE REYNOLDS, whose commission expired June 23, 1935. This affidavit is on a Government form entitled "Affidavit of Birth to be Submitted with Application for American Passport." The affidavit reflected that MURIE SPENCER was present at the time of the birth of GERALD MATTHEWSON, age 37 in 1934, born September 9, 1897, a nephew, born on a farm of JOHN STAPLETON, Baldwin County, Alabama, and that Montrose, Alabama, was the nearest United States Post Office.

The affidavit indicated that GERALD MATTHEWSON was then residing at 22 Irving Place, New York City. This affidavit apparently refers to subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON. Also in this folder was a Department of Commerce Discharge No. 2984161 indicating that seaman JOHN G. MATHISON was discharged September 15, 1933 by Master, R. L. HARRISON at New York City on that date and that he had been a radio operator on the boat "CHILOIL" and indicated his place of birth as Texas. Subject MATHISON had been on this boat since July 29, 1933, which boat was registered in New York.

33  
14  
19

Also in this folder was another Department of Commerce Seaman's Certificate of Discharge issued to J. MATHISON, on which he was given a discharge on November 29, 1933 at New York City. This certificate of discharge is No. 370005 and indicated he had entered service as a radio operator as of October 14, 1933 aboard the SS SCANMAIL. This boat was registered in New York and the boat made Baltic port voyages. J. MATHISON indicated his place of birth as Texas.

Another Department of Commerce Certificate of Discharge, No. 370004, indicated a discharge on November 29, 1933 at New York of a radio operator named J. HALL, also aboard the SS SCANMAIL since October 14, 1933 on a voyage to Baltic ports, who claimed to be born in Denmark.

Both Department of Commerce discharges aforementioned, pertaining to the SS SCANMAIL bear a rubber stamp of the United States Shipping Commissioner, Port of New York. They

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are in the same handwriting and it is believed that both were issued to Subject MATHISON.

Also in this folder was a photostatic copy of the front entry page of a Communist Party Membership Book, No. 35361, issued in the name of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON. Other entries on this photostat indicated that he had joined the Communist Party in December, 1933 in District 2, New York City, in Section 1. This photostat indicates that it bears the Communist Party hammer and sickle stamp and that the book was issued by the Central Committee, Communist Party, USA. The photostat aforementioned indicates at the top that the Communist Party of the USA was a section of the Communist Internationale.

Also in the folder aforementioned was a 1938 Communist Party Membership Book, No. 60632, issued in the name of MATTHEW BLAKE, indicating membership in the Communist Party in District 13, Los Angeles County and City, California. This book bears the Communist Party hammer and sickle stamp and indicates that it was issued by SCHNEIDERMAN, head of the Communist Party for the State of California. The front page of this book had been removed and there were no Party due stamps pasted in the book.

Also in the above-mentioned folder was found a small, cloth-bound hammer and sickle folder with a Russian title, containing a group of about twenty of what appear to be large postcards depicting revolutionary scenes in Russia. On the back of these cards appears descriptive material in the Russian language.

Also in the folder was a small, ten-page bulletin apparently issued in 1933, but all printed in Russian. This will be sent to the Bureau by letter for translation to determine whether it has any material of import in instant investigation.

Also in this folder were two photographs of a group apparently taken in Russia with Russian printed and handwritten material on the reverse side, which will, also, be submitted to the Bureau for translation. Inasmuch as VOLNEY GEORGE

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MATHISON was in Russia, his photograph may appear in this view.

The folder also contained a pamphlet written in Russian bearing on the front page handwritten material in the Russian language dated 1933. A similar pamphlet printed in Russian contained Russian written material on the reverse side.

The folder contained a group of what appear to be seven Russian coins and one small German coin.

The folder also contained rough draft copies of six radio messages, date not given, written in the Russian language. This material will also be sent to the Bureau for translation.

The folder contained copies of several newspapers, as follows:

1 copy, New York Daily Worker, December 21, 1933;

4 copies of the Russian Daily News, bearing dates of October 15, September 3, September 5, and September 10, 1932.

The issue of the Moscow Daily News, September 5, 1932, has a marked article written by VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON to the Editor of the paper, which is printed in English, bearing the headline, "FRANK DISCUSSION CLEARS UP CONFUSION." The body of this article states as follows:

"I congratulate you heartily for the publication in your issue of July 20th of the frank and clear-cut discussion by MOLLTOV concerning the recent food supply difficulties in the UKRAINE.

"It is important to remember that every difficulty of the Soviet Union is not only widely publicized and distorted in the Capitalistic world, but that such stories naturally tend to disturb even the friends of the U.S.S.R. The most encouraging and convincing

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procedure in such cases is not to remain silent but to publish, as you have so well done in this case, full discussion from the Soviet point of view.

/s/ VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON"

The editor in chief of this issue was M. M. BORODIN. Associate editors were listed as follows: VICTOR VACSOV, T. L. AXELROD, ANNA LOUISE STRONG. The editorial board was shown as V. I. MEXHLAUK, V. V. OSSINSKY, CHARLES ASHLEIGH, S. J. RUTGERS, MICHAEL KOLTZOV.

All the material above-mentioned is being placed in the Los Angeles Division file except that material which is being forwarded to the Bureau by letter for translation.

The identity of the anonymous sender is not known at the present time. It is known, however, from observation of the address given, 1122 South Patton Avenue, San Pedro, where the anonymous letter claims that the materials were found.

Observation made at the vicinity of 1122 South Patton Avenue indicated that this number is one of a group of three now joined apartments.

It was ascertained that a MARY CARTRIGHT GRAY resides at 1120 South Patton Avenue, San Pedro. She is a teacher as are her mother and father.

At the present time an individual known as FRANK V. TRANI is residing at 1122 South Patton Avenue, the point where the anonymous letter claims the instant material was found. This individual is one of a group of brothers by the same family name who have resided around San Pedro for a good many years. The brothers and father operate shoe repair stores.

At 1124 South Patton Avenue an architect and builder by the name of ART DE FEVER resides with his wife.

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All of the above-named individuals are believed to be patriotic Americans.

Confidential Informant [redacted] ascertained that a ROBERT GRAYSON resided at 1122 South Patton Avenue between the dates of July 9, 1940 and September 20, 1940. There is a possibility that VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON may be identical with ROBERT GRAYSON, as Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that GRAYSON secured public utilities under another name. ROBERT GRAYSON had Post Office Box 422 at Wilmington, California.

Confidential Informant [redacted] has an associate, [redacted] who had developed heretofore considerable history on VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON.

Observation of the point surrounding 1120-22-24 South Patton Avenue, developed that a car visited this point bearing 1941 California license 01 W 9 59, which is issued to a Mrs. EMMA DE VARENNES, address - 630 - 13th Street, San Pedro, for a 1939 Nash sedan. The legal title was in the same name.

Prior history has been developed on CHESTER H. JORDAN, a known member of the Communist Party, and at the present time a national representative for the American Radio and Telegraphers Association, as well as its San Pedro secretary. This material, together with material on subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON was set out in report of Special Agent C. H. OLSON, Los Angeles, California, dated January 24, 1941 in the case entitled, "ROBERT L. KAY, ET AL - ESPIONAGE - G." Inasmuch as the information on JORDAN and MATHISON in the above referred to file was only collateral material to that file, it will be restated in instant file.

\* \* \*

At the Los Angeles County Register of Voters, it was ascertained that CHESTER H. JORDAN had registered as a voter in Los Angeles County on September 18, 1936, at which time he gave his political party as Democratic, his occupation - union delegate, and his place of birth - Canada; citizenship obtained



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through a decree of court on July 7, 1925 at Oakland, California. His address was shown as 927 Crestwood Street, San Pedro, California.

J. W. LUCAS, Chief Reporter of the Retail Merchants Credit Association, exhibited to Agent the credit association's file relative to CHESTER H. JORDAN. The file reflected JORDAN'S wife's name as MYRA. It reflected that JORDAN was residing at 927 Crestwood Street, San Pedro, California, but had formerly resided at 1211 North Evergreen Street, Los Angeles, at which time he was employed by the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council, 406 South Main Street, Los Angeles; that he was later engaged as the secretary of this same Council and was engaged in the organization work of all CIO locals; that in 1937 he was reported to be receiving a salary of about \$300.00 per month.

The credit association's file reflected that JORDAN was interviewed by a representative of the credit association on October 14, 1937; that at that time he claimed he had formerly been the national representative for the American Telegraphers' Association, 10 Bridge Street, New York City; that he had formerly been a radio operator and purser on the McCORMICK Steamship Lines, working out of San Francisco; that he had held this position intermittently for a period of about five years. The file reflected that JORDAN had also been employed as an agent for the American Radio Telegraphist Association, 212 West Sixth Street. The file contained a notation that JORDAN had all along been identified with the labor organization of the CIO around San Pedro.

On the door at 212 West Sixth Street (not 212 East Sixth Street) is the sign of the Southern California District Council No. 4, Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose name has previously been furnished to the Bureau, advised that CHESTER H. JORDAN is a known member of the Communist Party, exhibiting to Agent a 1938 Registration card of the Communist Party, which reflected that CHESTER JORDAN, 1211 North Evergreen, Los Angeles, was a member of the Industrial Section, having joined in 1935; that he was a member of the Party under the name of CHARLES LINDSTROM. His book number was shown as 59051 for the year

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1938. His nationality was shown as American, his place of birth Canada, his occupation - secretary of the CIO Council. He was with the ARTA, No. 7, as the national representative, ARTA standing for the American Radio Telegraphers' Association.

Another card in the possession of Confidential Informant [ ] reflected that JORDAN'S number in 1937 was 75648 in the Party, and it was issued under the name of CHARLES LINDSTROM. Confidential Informant [ ] advised that JORDAN has been very active in the Communist Party; that he was formerly secretary under LEW MICHENER, MICHENER having been involved in the recent strike at the Vultee Aircraft Corporation. He stated that at one time JORDAN had held the position of secretary of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, Coast Council No. 4; that JORDAN had been elected in 1936 and was re-elected a second time; that during the later part of 1938 he had resigned his position and made a trip to New York as a representative of the ARTA, remaining in New York until sometime in 1939, at which time he returned to San Pedro, California.

He stated that JORDAN is undoubtedly an associate of VOLNEY G. MATHISON, who is a member of the Communist Party under the name of MATTHEW BLAKE, MATHISON presently residing in San Pedro.

Confidential Informant [ ] exhibited the Communist Party card of MATHISON, which reflected that he was known in the Party under the name of BLAKE and had joined in 1934; that he had formerly been a radio operator on the SS TANGO and was a member of the ARTA, his number in the Party being 75714.

A check of the indices of the Los Angeles Division Office reflected that JORDAN is the subject in Los Angeles File 61-496; that investigation is being conducted relative to this individual in the above-referred-to file. In File No. 100-1788, it is reflected that CHESTER JORDAN is the secretary-treasurer of the Travelers' Club.

\* \* \*

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It will be noted in this material that VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON is described as an agent for the American Radio Telegraphers Association, 212 West Sixth Street. At this address which is the Postal Telegraph or Mackay Radio address, a JACK DUNN is secretary at the A. C. A. (American Communications Association) which is also a CIO union. Therefore, CHESTER H. JORDAN undoubtedly represents both A.C.A. and A.R.T.A.

Subject PAUL M. ORR and his wife, VIOLET ORR, had previously registered as Communist Party voters. They changed their registration, however, to the designation "Decline to State." They were last known to reside at 1151 1/2 Figueroa Terrace, Los Angeles, California.

In the fall of 1940 PAUL M. ORR and his wife, VIOLET ORR, left for San Francisco. Mrs. GARLAND, who resides at 1151 Figueroa Terrace, telephone - MADison 1959, advised that she had a postcard from PAUL M. ORR and his wife at New Year's and that PAUL M. ORR and his wife have been living with a brother in San Francisco. She did not know ORR'S present address, but advised she would try to secure the same and would furnish it on another telephone request.

It can be certain that PAUL M. ORR and his wife will be identified with the Communist Party in San Francisco. Years ago he was connected with the Friends of Soviet Union there and with the International Workers Organ.

CHESTER H. JORDAN, who in 1940 was secretary-treasurer of the Travelers' Club maintained a headquarters of the Travelers' Club in San Pedro. The Travelers' Club is a name applied to that section of the Communist Party whose members are sailors, seamen, fishermen or ship radio operators. Others whose occupations or connections with maritime associations require them to spend most of their time working at sea on ships as members of the Communist Party carry Travelers' Club cards which signify that the holders are members of the Communist Party. In other words they do not have the usual Communist Party membership books. The individual Communists often hold these Travelers' Club cards under alias names to avoid identity. The holders of the Travelers' Club cards pay dues in proportion to their earnings, similar to holders of

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the Communist Party books and monthly due stamps are placed on the Travelers' Club cards.

JACK EGGAN, alias Jack Eggen, former head of the Travelers' Club in San Pedro was killed in Spain while fighting for the Loyalists during the winter of 1938.

As of November 20th and December 11th, 1937 the following individuals belonged to the Travelers' Club in Unit E-6:

Name	Year Joined	Year of Birth	Country of Birth	Occupation	Union Affiliation
A. TANFORD	1932	1888	At Sea	MC & S	Marine Cooks & Stewards
R. LAWYER	Oct. 1937	1903	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards
D. L. SMITH	Sydney NSW 1928	1902	USA	Fireman	Marine Fire- men, Oilers & Wat.
A. HARRIS	1935	1901	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards
M. LERNER	1937	1911	USA	Fireman	Marine Fire- men, Oilers & Water- tenders
R. ANDERSON	1934	1906	USA	Fireman	Marine Fire- men, Oilers & Water- tenders
E. LAKSO	1933	1887	Russia	Sailor	Sailors Union of the Pacific
W. LONOROAN	1935	1893	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Joined</u>	<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Country of Birth</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Union Affiliation</u>
P. VAN DORN	1937	1914	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards
HARRY PINGLE	1936	1907	USA	Sailor	Sailors Union Pacific
J. EGGEN	1935	1912	USA	Sailor	Sailors Union Pacific
TOM GOMEZ	1937	1900	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards
ROGER FRANCEZON	1936	1892	France	Fireman	Marine Firemen Oilers & Watertenders
DENNIS HOOPER	1936	1910	USA	Cook	Marine Cooks & Stewards
D. BLACKMAN	1936	1897	USA	Fireman	Marine Firemen Oilers & Watertenders
ADAM EVANS	1937	1912	Jugo- slavia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
J. CHEVREMENT	1937	1902	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
JOHN BUSH	1935	1891	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
BILL BROWN	1933	1892	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Joined</u>	<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Country of Birth</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Union Affiliation</u>
ALEX BODAGH	1932	1884	Russia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
M. BOGBANDVICH	1935	1904	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
S. VODOPIA	1930	1892	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
M. BATTINOVICH	1936	1905	USA	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen
M. FERNANDEZ	1935	1875	Spain	Fireman	Marine Firemen Oilers & Watertenders
G. IVANKOVICH	1926	1895	Dalmatia	Fisherman	Deep Sea & Purse Seine Fishermen

MIKE, alias FRANK, PADOVAN, head of the Fishermen's CIO Union at San Pedro is very closely associated with CHESTER H. JORDAN.

One NICHOLAS TUGGLE, alias Nick Tuggle, a Communist who now declares that he does not presently belong to the Communist Party, but who also fought in Spain for the Loyalists, and who has been a member of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE, has long resided in the harbor area. He is well informed on the identity of Communists in that area. NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that FRANK PADOVAN was secretary of the Communist Party at San Pedro, and that FRANK PADOVAN at the present time is president of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, Council No. 4. The Maritime Federation of the Pacific is a group including all the CIO unions which unite for action in the time of any strike crisis. NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that

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CHESTER H. JORDAN is secretary and business agent for the American Communications Association, San Pedro.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE has identified a large group of individuals which he claimed was in the Communist Party in the harbor area during 1939 and 1940. He stated that BRITT WEBSTER, ELMER MEVERETT, JOHN POLKKI, COHAN YOUNG, BILL FOY, DEAN HOOD, MANUAL FERNANDEZ and RED ROBINSON are members of the Communist Party and that they are members of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, No. 1-13. TUGGLE stated that TOM BROWN, while not possessing a Communist Party book, attends unit meetings and carries out Communist Party policy.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE further stated that the minor members of the Communist Party in the harbor area are three members of the LEMON family, father and two sons. He stated that LOUIS BAKER and JACK BROOKS are full-time functionaries of the Communist Party. TUGGLE advised that the Communist Party in the harbor area lost one of its most valued members when BOB WILSON became disillusioned and disgusted with the Communists and quit the Party.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that Mrs. MARY WOODS and her husband, known as "POP" WOODS, were formerly an organizational work in the Communist Party. Mrs. JOHN POLKKI, NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated, is a very dynamic Communist Party organizer in San Pedro, as is the wife of BRITT WEBSTER, Mrs. FRANCES WEBSTER, who works in the Laborers' Non-Partisan League. A Mrs. OSTRICH is active in the Communist Party.

In the Fishermen's Union, of which FRANK PADOVAN is the union head, is also a FRANK MASCIC, who is also a member of the Communist Party, according to TUGGLE. TUGGLE further advised that FRANK PADOVAN and LEONARD KAHN are in charge of the Communist Party affairs with relation to Collectives. He stated that at one time the Communist Party at San Pedro intended to take fishing boats to carry a number of American Communist Party members to Mexico to establish Collectives in fishing and marketing. It was their original plan to have comrades who were of military age in the establishment of the Collectives.

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NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that the Mexican Government had allotted 500,000 acres of land to the Collectives project and had promised to give tools and machinery on part-time basis as soon as sufficient technic was available for its proper management. NICHOLAS TUGGLE further stated that there were plans to obtain gold mining cooperatives in Mexico.

Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished this office with the National Maritime Union form letter issued in behalf of the WEBSTER-SMALLMAN DEFENSE COMMITTEE, as of January 31, 1941. It is noted in this letter that collections of money in their defense are to be sent to CHESTER H. JORDAN who is listed as secretary-treasurer of the WEBSTER-SMALLMAN DEFENSE COMMITTEE, 212 West Sixth Street, San Pedro.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE, aforementioned, advised that 65% of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE are a dangerous element and that they are tied in with the Communist Party. He stated that out of 8700 Americans who went to fight in Spain only about 1800 came back, one-half of which are presently members of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that FRANK PADOVAN owns a 1936 Plymouth sedan bearing California 1940 license No. 1S 69 50. This car is registered to FRANK PADOVAN, 212 West Sixth Street, San Pedro, which is the same address given for CHESTER H. JORDAN.

On another occasion NICHOLAS TUGGLE advised that the San Pedro agenda for the Communist Party included the establishment of a Collective two hundred miles below the American border in Mexico at a place called Sancantin, Del Norte, Mexico. He stated this was proposed as a fish Collective and that the group hoped to purchase three purse seiners.

On another occasion NICHOLAS TUGGLE advised that HAMLET LOFTFIELD, who is a member of the ACA aforementioned, is also a member of the Communist Party, and that he resides in a hotel on Terminal Island.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that MIKE SLAVODK, a permit man in the Ships Clerks Union, No. 13, at San Pedro, was formerly a member of the Communist Party.



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NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that a Mexican individual by the name of GUIRELLNO HERNANDEZ or FERNANDEZ, who is residing at 428 West 11th Street, San Pedro, telephone - San Pedro 1645-W, as of November 7, 1940 was a direct representative of I. PRIETO, former Minister of the Interior, or of Education, in Spain, and at one time secretary of the Communist Party in Spain. NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that I. PRIETO is presently residing in Mexico and is responsible for the presence there of the Spanish refugees. He further stated that the individual above described, HERNANDEZ or FERNANDEZ, cannot speak English and is about 36 years of age, 5' 5" tall, of slim build, a typical intellectual Spaniard. TUGGLE advised that in November, 1940, this individual had exhibited a large roll of bills and was trying to interest American individuals in joining the Collectives in Mexico.

TUGGLE, at a subsequent time, advised that this individual's name was FERNANDEZ, and that FERNANDEZ wanted to contact a GEORGE MORROS, 648 West 18th Street, telephone San Pedro 0361 who works at the Post Office at San Pedro as a relief man. TUGGLE advised that FERNANDEZ wanted to interest GEORGE MORROS in organizing a mining collective in Mexico. TUGGLE described FERNANDEZ as a "dyed in the wool" Stalinist, about 32 years of age, who resides with his mother.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that FERNANDEZ wanted to meet MIKE, or FRANK, PADOVAN and stated that FERNANDEZ' purpose was to get the Spanish refugees located in Baja California, about one hundred miles from the American border, as FERNANDEZ thought that the United States would sooner or later take over Baja California, and thus make the Spanish refugees American citizens.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE at a later date, stated that FERNANDEZ went to Mexico, but that the focal point on the Mexican Collective situation was at New Orleans, Louisiana.

TUGGLE at a subsequent date advised that there had been founded in Lower California, Mexico, a cooperative or collective, known as the Santo Domingo Pepper Collective,

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which had on it about two hundred fifty Spanish refugees. He stated each refugee was given \$100 in cash and three months' subsistence.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE advised that BEN STRONG, who resides in the 300 block, Upland Street, San Pedro, was a leader of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE in the harbor area, but that STRONG had said they had had no meetings of late months.

TUGGLE identified FELIX TAKAMOTO and his wife, MARY TAKAMOTO in the harbor area as being Communist Party membership book holders of long standing. He stated that they worked at a cannery on Terminal Island and are listed in the telephone book. NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that all Japanese Communist Party members are pro-Chinese and, therefore, opposed to the present Japanese Government.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE stated that the automobile driver for FRANK PADOVAN is LEONARD KAHN, generally known as "LENNY" who is a Jewish individual.

TUGGLE stated that LILLIAN JONES, who is a Negress, 222 North Bonnie Brae, Los Angeles, is secretary of the National Negro Congress, Southern California; that she is a member of the Communist Party and closely associated with a Negro attorney, a Communist Party member, named LOREN MILLER.

TUGGLE stated that Dr. LESTER D. CRAIN, 1741 South Grand Street, San Pedro, is a medical examiner for members of the I.W.O. in San Pedro and that he is a Communist Party member.

TUGGLE advised that the Communist Party headquarters in San Pedro is at the home of JOHN POLKKI, where the Longshoremen members of the Communist Party meet.

NICHOLAS TUGGLE has knowledge of the identities of Communist Party members in the harbor area. He is somewhat unreliable, however, because he is subject to extended lapses of intoxication. He is presently residing in Long Beach and is a permit holder in the Ships Clerks Union, Local 1-34, as

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well as in the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, Local 1-13, both CIO unions.

Confidential Informant [redacted] on September 23, 1940 telephonically advised that subject MATHISON was seen in Long Beach, California, at the City Water Taxi Docks on September 9, 1940. His activities there were unknown at the time. Informant had heard that subject MATHISON had been in Mexico.

The Long Beach Police Department had caused some investigation to be made concerning subject MATHISON and it was determined as of January 10, 1940 that MATHISON was then residing at 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, California. The Long Beach Police Department report indicated that subject MATHISON was a radio expert and had used a shortwave radio station to communicate race track tips to the gambling boats which were then operating off the Pacific Coast. This report indicated that subject MATHISON'S wife was known as JEAN MATHISON and that the MATHISONS had a friend named Mrs. W. J. RAY, who in January, 1940 resided in Cottage No. 6, 415 Elm Street, Long Beach. Mrs. RAY was supposed to sell a cleaner compound. She, Mrs. RAY, was described as a radical.

The Long Beach Police Department report stated that very little was known about subject MATHISON with the exception of the fact that he is described as a little bigger than the ordinary Communist and was supposed to be quite active in Communist circles in Mexico; further, that MATHISON when seen in Long Beach about September 15, 1940 was driving a new automobile which bore no license plates.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, will report the result of translation of the Russian radio messages forwarded to the Bureau.

AT SAN PEDRO AND TERMINAL ISLAND, will endeavor to learn the present location of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON and his connection with the Communist Party, the ACA and the ARTA.

AT LOS ANGELES, SAN PEDRO AND TERMINAL ISLAND, will determine what activities are being engaged in by CHESTER H. JORDAN in the Communist Party.

Will obtain and report descriptions of CHESTER H. JORDAN, VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON and PAUL M. ORR.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, will ascertain whether subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON is presently residing in that city.

Will discreetly ascertain his location from Mrs. W. J. RAY, last known address - Cottage No. 6, 415 Elm Street.

AT SUNSET BEACH, CALIFORNIA, will discreetly ascertain whether MATHISON has moved from 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach.

THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE will ascertain from COMMUNIST CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS the present location of Subject PAUL M. ORR and wife, VIOLET ORR. This family may be living with a brother named ORR in San Francisco. Ascertain discreetly whether PAUL M. ORR and wife are engaged in Communist Party activities.

- P E N D I N G -

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles, California  
February 27, 1941

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Confidential

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,  
w.as; ET AL;  
INTERNAL SECURITY- R.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, California, dated February 27, 1941. It is noted that the folder containing personal Communist records of subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, according to the anonymous letter dated at San Pedro January 19, 1941, was found at 1122 South Patton Avenue, San Pedro.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED  
During the course of future investigation an attempt will be made to learn the identity of the individual who transmitted the folder of material on subject MATHISON, it being noted that on the inside of the folder appears the pen and ink notation "Sears Roebuck Contacts."

COPIES DESTROYED  
R42 MAY 24 1961

749-6  
MAR 8 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FIVE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

66-28841-3-26-19

93

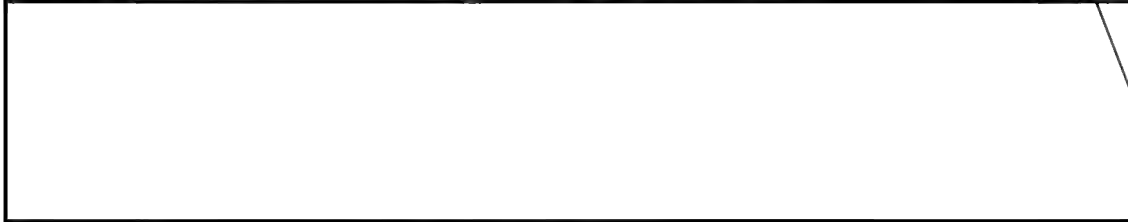
FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Director

- 2 -

February 27, 1941

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, w.as, ET AL  
INTERNAL SECURITY



Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*

R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

DWM/hp  
100-662

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Los Angeles, California  
April 17, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.


RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, w.as, ET AL;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with Bureau Bulletin No. 88,  
Second Series, dated February 8, 1938, a thirty-day mail  
cover was placed by this office on April 17, 1941  
(Date)

on mail addressed to: 428 or 430 South Walker Street,  
San Pedro, California, where there  
resides a D. J. MATHISON, probably  
DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON.

Very truly yours,

  
R. B. HOOD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

DWM/hp  
100-662

RECORDED

62-7749-2  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
7 APR 19 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FIVE

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61-7749-8  
**CHANGED TO**  
100-167565-3

(12-18-42  
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pt)  
AUG 30 1955 Co.

824



DHT:ESK  
61-7749

July 25, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,  
with aliases, ET AL;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

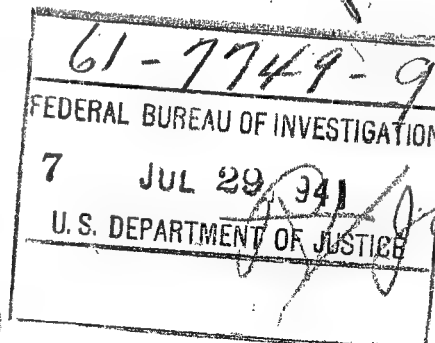
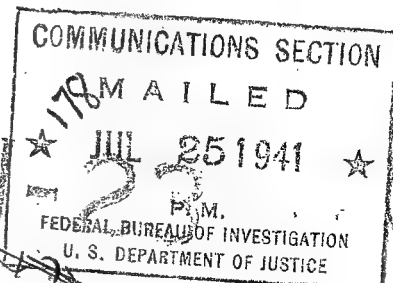
A review of the Bureau files reflects that the last report submitted with respect to the captioned matter was dated February 27, 1941.

It is requested that this case be given your attention so that it may be drawn to a logical conclusion.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECORDED



MATHISON, VOLNEY GEORGE  
with aliases: MATTHEW BLAKE  
J. HALL  
V. G. MATHESSEN  
GERALD MATTHEWSON  
VOLNEY GEORGE MATHIESON  
J. MATHISON  
JOHN G. MATHISON

23  
COMMUNIST

634 Fries St.,  
Wilmington, California 6-2-41

Alleged to have constructed ultra high frequency radio sets which work better than any on market. Claims he uses sets to receive news broadcasts. Alleged to have Mexican border pass and preparing to obtain passport for Russia which he claims he will use in event of hostilities. Has installed unusually large gasoline tank in his car and is able to drive to some unknown location in Mexico and return without having to refuel. Has great many friends among foreign longshoremen. (Conf. Inf. N, Los Angeles F.O., 10-30-39, 61-7749-1)

CH-5  
177

RECORDED

161-7749-10  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
4 SEP 26 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
EX-116  
ma

MATHISON, VOLNEY GEORGE

1a

Communists met at his home, during which Dies Committee was one of principal subjects under discussion. (ONI, San Diego, Calif., 1-18-40, 100-2-287)

Honorary citizen of U.S.S.R. by reason of certain assistance he gave that country some time ago. Kicked out of C.P. at one time but later quietly taken back into party. (Karl Baarslag, General Chairman, Marine Division, Commercial Telegraphers Union, A. F. of L., 265 W. 14th St., N.Y.C., Aug. 1940, 39-915-33)

Is anti-British and apparently pro-Russian. Has stated Russian problem is not getting square deal in American newspapers. Is active in radio transmitting and receiving in his own home and sends some messages in foreign languages. (Mrs. E. R. Mac Naught, 1900/Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, Calif., Aug. 1940, 61-7749-3)

block

Anonymous communication received by Los Angeles F.O. on 1-21-41 transmitted quantity of records belonging to Mathison. Included in this material was letter of introduction from Paul M. Orr, member of C.P. and until recently located in

MATHISON, VOLNEY GEORGE

2

Los Angeles with his wife, Violet Orr, both of whom formally registered as voters in Los Angeles as members of C.P. This letter of introduction described Mathison as having been in Moscow, Russia, in 1933 as official Labor Convention delegate and being American naval wireless operator and in that capacity officially received by Michael Kalinin, Secretary of Central Executive Committee of U.S.S.R. By way of further identification, Mathison has written articles which have appeared in Moscow newspapers. Is considered dangerous Communist and expert on radio installation, particularly on short wave sets on fishing vessels. (100-119-18)

Sent radio message to OGPU in Leningrad, Russia, on Nov. 3, year unknown, which indicated he was arriving from San Francisco on Nov. 5, aboard "Skanmail" with documents to show he was representative from Trade Union of American Radio Workers which sent him to Moscow for November holidays. Message indicated he had American passport as seaman but no visa because there was only one day to leave on boat "Intourist" after he had been elected representative. Also stated he was American member of Friends of Soviet Union and had worked for recognition. Requested translator meet him and further requested instructions. (Supra, 61-7749-4)

MATHISON, VOLNEY GEORGE

2a

Has Russian contacts and on 3-5-41 was seen talking to deck hand on tug named "Cuyemeca" in Long Beach, Calif. Associates with Russian Jew named Alexander Hagel, a first class radio and telegraph operator connected with Slav fisherman at Terminal Island and San Pedro, Calif., near where U.S. Fleet anchors. Also associates with Vincent Zankick, alien Slav. who installs short wave sets in fishing boats located in Long Beach. Both Hagel and Zankick are members of C.P. Mathison known to have made several trips to Russia and from appearance is well supplied with funds. (Harry Shelly, radio operator, Long Beach, Calif., P.D., 100-119-18) *Rsk/asm* ✓

61-7749-11

CANCELLED

DHT:ael  
61-7749

October 1, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,  
with aliases; ET AL;  
INTERNAL SECURITY-R

Dear Sir:

The Bureau desires that it be advised as to  
the exact status of this case at the present time.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CH-22

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Drayton  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION	
MAILED	
★	OCT 1 1941 ★
P. M.	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	



61-7749-12	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
8	OCT 8 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

HR:PC

September 30, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. L. M. C. SMITH  
CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

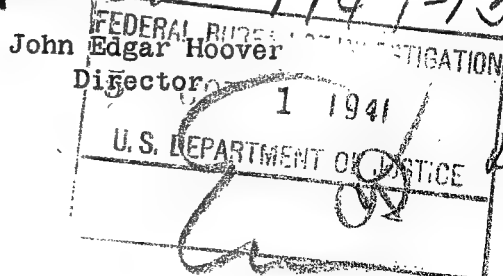
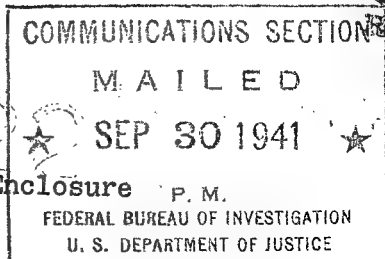
There is transmitted herewith a dossier showing the information presently available in the files of this Bureau with respect to VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases, whose address is 634 Fries Street, Wilmington, California.

It is recommended that this individual be considered for custodial detention in the event of a national emergency. The information contained on the attached dossier constitutes the basis for appropriate consideration in this regard.

It should be understood, of course, that additional information may be received from time to time supplementing that already available in the Bureau's files, and as such data are received they will be made available to you so that the dossier in your possession may be supplemented thereby.

It will be greatly appreciated if you will advise this Bureau at your earliest convenience as to the decision reached in this case.

Very truly yours,





P 61-7749-14, 15, 16, 17  
CANCELLED

HR:ECM

November 14, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

REGISTERED MAIL -  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

RE: <sup>D</sup>  
VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON  
with aliases  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic  
copy of a custodial detention card relating to

Volney George Mathison, with aliases  
634 Fries Street  
Wilmington, California

for appropriate and expeditious attention in  
accordance with existing Bureau instructions.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*(219 234)*  
CH-1 Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED

★ NOV 14 1941 ★

P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

*d*  
64-2749-185 *gls*  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOV 18 1941

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
*gms*

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61-7749-19, 20, 21, 22, 23,  
CANCELLED 24, 25, 26, 27,  
28, 29,

United States Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California  
January 19, 1942

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quian Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,  
with aliases:  
CHESTER H. JORDAN  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, dated January 14, 1942, in the above-entitled case. That report, as well as the report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, dated February 27, 1941 in the same case, refers to the receipt of an anonymous envelope forwarding all the material described in the two reports involving Subject MATHISON, which indicated a Russian connection, possibly as an O.G.P.U. Agent.

It is noted that a confidential memorandum from O.N.I., dated April 24, 1941 regarding Subject MATHISON, carries an item at page four reflecting that Subject MATHISON was friendly with a Dr. HUCKINS at Long Beach, California and that Subject MATHISON confided in Dr. HUCKINS and at one time left his briefcase overnight with HUCKINS. Dr. HUCKINS, who is now deceased, was reported to be a loyal citizen and only friendly with Subject MATHISON to obtain information as to MATHISON's activities. It is possible that Mrs. HUCKINS might have information on Subject MATHISON and she will be contacted in this connection.

This information is being supplied to the Bureau to reflect the possible source of the anonymous communication received by the Los Angeles Office, forwarding the documents mentioned in the reference reports.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD,  
Special Agent in Charge.

COPY IN FILE

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R42 MAY 24 1961

DWM:GLB  
100-662

DE-INDEXED

DATE: 3/16/59

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61-7749-30  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
16 JAN 22 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE